



For Immediate Release

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Medics work to save Shinkay youth

Zabul, Afghanistan – Combined Team Zabul surgeons at Forward Operating Base Lagman worked tirelessly Monday Aug. 9th, to save the arms of a 13 year-old boy from Shin Kay. The teen's upper arms had been severely damaged when his shirt got caught in a wheat mill.

The boy was brought to FOB Sweeney by his Grandfather and then transported to Lagman where he was treated and stabilized. The boy's bicep had been badly mutilated and he lost a section of artery about 10 centimeters long.

A team of four surgeons worked tirelessly on the boy to place shunts in his upper left arm to return blood flow to the limb. A **shunt** is a small hole or passage that allows fluid to move from one part of the body to another. The surgeons were able to restore a pulse the boy's hand using this device. The laceration of the young man's artery caused him to lose a great deal of blood before arriving at Lagman. The Forward Surgical Team put out a call for donors and conducted a blood drive in order to save the boy. Soldiers from throughout the FOB responded and the boy was stabilized and flown to KAF for more intensive medical care. His status is being monitored.

The quick medical team of surgeons and our Soldiers donating blood to a local boy shows our commitment to help the Afghan people. Whether it is with getting rid of criminals that target innocent people, providing needed projects to improve the quality of life or even giving blood to help people that are in need, the partnership efforts of Combined Team Zabul and 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment with the ANSF, GIRoA are highlighted in events like these.